

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1 and 2. These sheets, which include Fig. 1 and 2, replace the original sheets including Figs. 1 and 2.

Attachment: Annotated Sheets
Replacement Sheets

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, the applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are not rendered obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Accordingly, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. **If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues, or believes that some or all of the claims are not in condition for allowance, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned to schedule a telephone Examiner Interview before any further actions on the merits.**

The applicants will now address each of the issues raised in the outstanding Office Action.

Objections

Claim 2 stands objected to due to minor informality. Since this claim has been amended based on the Examiner's helpful suggestion, this objection should be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 6-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,961,772 ("the Suzuki patent") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,732,293 ("the Nonaka patent"). Since these claims have been canceled, this ground of rejection is rendered moot.

Amendments to the Drawings

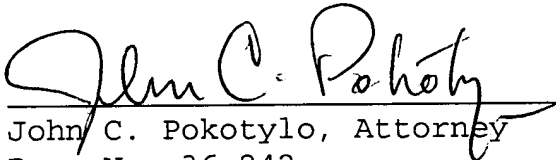
Changes to the drawings have been proposed, to correct a minor typographical error, noted by the Examiner, in each of Figures 1 and 2.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the applicants request that the Examiner pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

July 6, 2005


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on **July 6, 2005** with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


John C. Pokotylo

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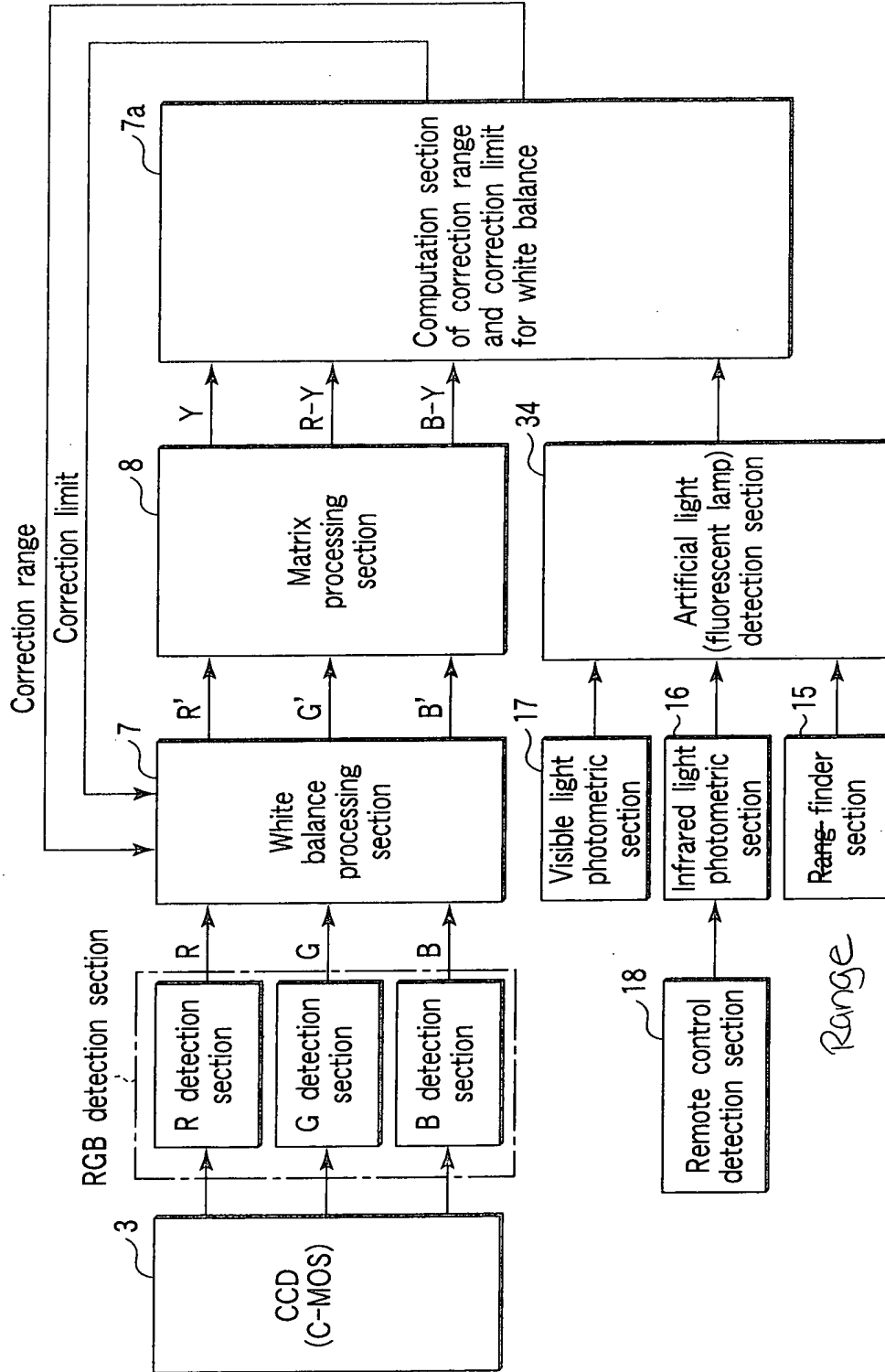


FIG. 1

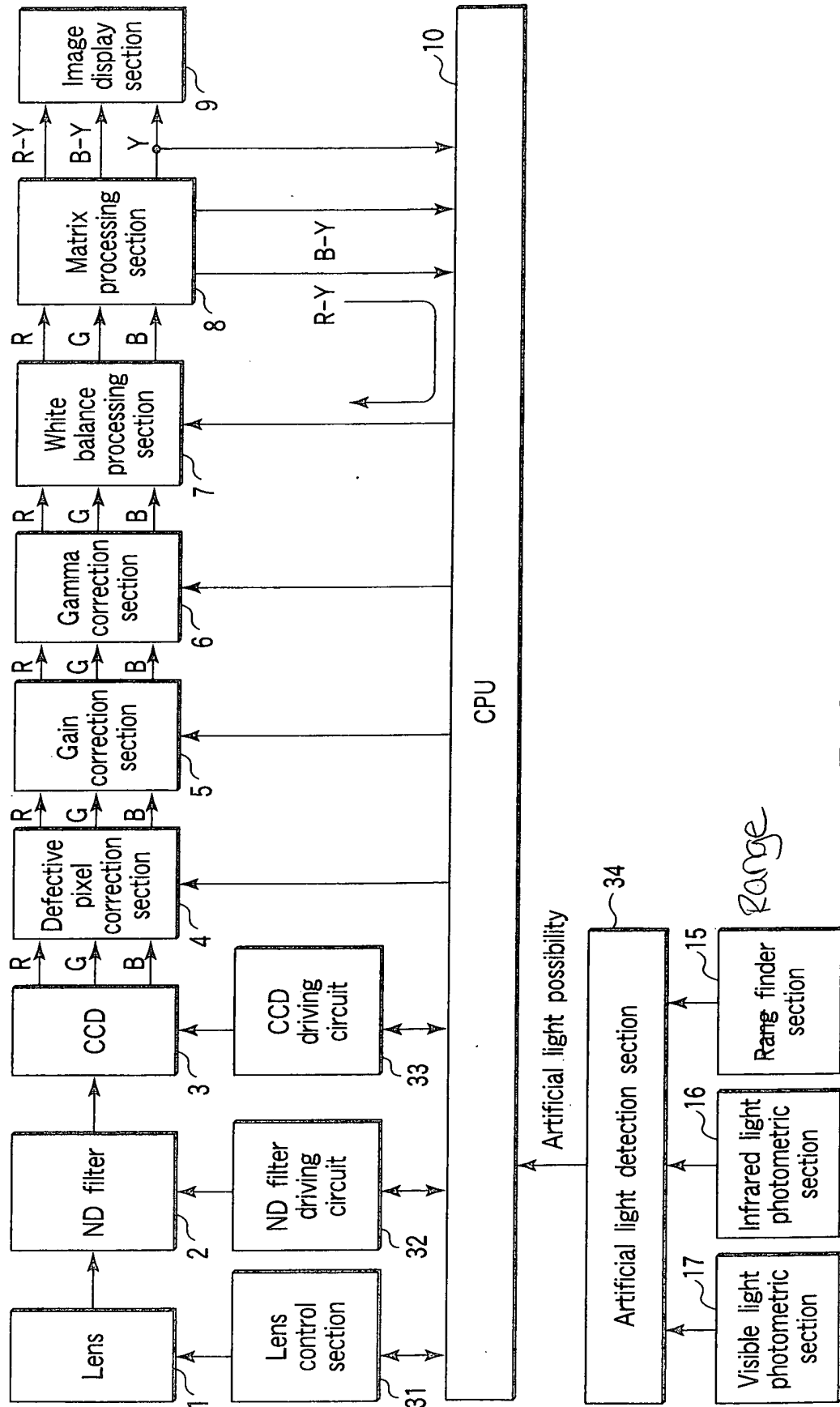


FIG. 2